

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

200 W. Washington, Suite 301
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 233-0696
<http://www.in.gov/legislative>

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6654

BILL NUMBER: SB 240

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 20, 2010

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Speech-Language Pathologists.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Kruse

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
X DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: The bill recognizes speech pathologists who had a life license before 1985 as eligible to supervise speech-language pathology support personnel (in lieu of another requirement to have obtained a certificate of clinical competence (CCC) from a nationally recognized association).

Effective Date: July 1, 2010 (retroactive); July 1, 2011.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues: *Summary:* Under current law, persons that violate speech-language pathology law can be charged with a Class B misdemeanor. Given the bill would allow a speech-language pathologist (SLP) with a prior-to-1985 license to supervise support personnel without a CCC-SLP, there may be a slight reduction in the number of cases involving speech-language pathologists. Fewer fines would reduce revenue to both the Common School Fund (from fines) and the state General Fund (from court fees). However, any reduction in revenue would likely be small.

Additionally, the provision would also prevent a person with a prior-to-1985 license and without a CCC-SLP from being eligible to being assessed a civil penalty for the supervision of SLP support personnel in future years. Current law requires a speech-language pathologist to have a CCC to supervise support personnel.

Background- The maximum fine for a Class B misdemeanor is \$1,000. The Professional Licensing Agency may assess a maximum civil penalty of \$1,000 per violation on a person that violates a state statute regarding the regulation of a profession. Civil penalties are deposited in the state General Fund.

License Count- As of September 15, 2010, there were 2,302 speech-language pathologists with an active license, and 268 with an active license dating from prior to 1985.

The American Speech Language Hearing Association reports that in December 2009 there were 2,144 speech-language pathologists in Indiana with a certificate of clinical competence.

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues: If fewer court actions occur and guilty verdicts entered, local governments would receive less revenue from court fees. However, any reduction in revenue would likely be small.

State Agencies Affected: Professional Licensing Agency.

Local Agencies Affected: Trial courts, local law enforcement agencies.

Information Sources: Professional Licensing Agency; American Speech Language Hearing Association.

Fiscal Analyst: Chris Baker, 317-232-9851.